

MINUTES

Technical Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2006

1:30 p.m.

Conference Room #113

Members Present: Karl Fredrickson, Larry Worth, Randy Hoskins, Virendra Singh, Public Works/Utilities, Roger Figard, RTSD/Public Works/Utilities; Marc Wullschleger, Urban Development; Marvin Krout, David Cary, Planning; Rich Ruby, Ron Schlautman (representing Steve McBeth), NDOR; Don Thomas, Doug Pillard, County Engineering; and Mike Heyl (representing R. Thoreson), Health Department

Others Present: Mike Piernicky - Olsson Associates, Steve Burnham - FHWA; Marc Rosso, Mike Brienzo and Karen Sieckmeyer - Public Works/Utilities; Phyllis Hergenrader - Friends of Wilderness Park; Kent Morgan - Planning; Tom Albury - Lincoln Chamber of Commerce; Dan Norman, HWS Consulting Group; John Ludden, Pro-Rail; Jonathan Cook, City Council.

Karl Fredrickson called the meeting to order and roll-call was taken.

Agenda Item No. 1 - Review and action on the draft minutes of the February 9, 2006, Technical Committee Meeting.

There being no corrections, Marc Wullschleger made a motion to approve the minutes. Virendra Singh seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Review of the 2005 *Lincoln Lancaster Long Range Transportation Plan 2030 Update* Transportation Network Concept Plan and TransCAD modeling activity.

Singh said that they would be sharing four different model runs. 1) 2004 base network with 2004 land use on it which is the recently calibrated model; 2) 2004 street network with a 2030 land use plan which is the "No Build"; 3) 2025 approved Comprehensive Plan street network on a 2030 land use plan is an alternative for the 2030 land use; and 4) 2030 land use and 2030 street network are alternatives for the 2030 land use.

Singh turned it over to Mike Piernicky, with Olsson Associates, who went over the process up to this point and some background information on the presentation today (see attached).

Concerns were voiced by Marvin Krout regarding the calibration model which had been approved by the Technical Committee on January 19th and the Officials Committee on February 2, 2006. Krout didn't think that the Technical Committee had voted on the calibration model yet and he had some major concerns regarding the increase in person trips which can account for 15 to 20 percent

of the traffic that is being projected 30 years from now. Krout asked if the assumption on vehicle trips was still on the table for discussion? Roger Figard didn't think so since the Technical Committee had already voted on this. Randy Hoskins said that if Krout was looking at sticking with those numbers, that is something that we still can debate.

A detailed discussion was held regarding the calibration model and number of people trips. It was decided that this would go back to the sub-committee for them to review and make a recommendation.

At the direction of the Technical Committee, a motion was made by Figard, to send this back to the sub-committee for their recommendation on person trips and square footage per person land uses, Krout seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Figard stated that the sub-committee has already worked through the calibration. They went through the assumptions, they agreed, and made recommendations to the Technical Committee on the assumptions. If there is difficulty with the assumptions that are in the model, Figard thinks they may rest more with gaining an understanding of the assumptions and understanding what the concern is with the land use rather than to ask the Technical Committee what are the implications of those assumptions. Each one of the MPO groups went through and agreed to the assumptions to calibrate the model and to plan the future network. Asking to pull the sub-committee back together and say do you agree with what you gave us may be an exercise in futility. Maybe we need Singh and Piernicky to sit down with some key people from several departments and go back over the assumptions that went into the model and confirm what we have done or not done.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Briefing on the *Lincoln-Lancaster Transit Study* for input in the Long Range Transportation Plan 2030 Update planning activity.

David Cary stated that the Technical Committee had agreed last year to partially fund a detailed transit study at StarTran Operations Transit Services in the City of Lincoln. Cary mentioned that the City is in the process of moving forward with this study. The City has gone through the RFP process; held interviews with three different consultants; and have chosen UrbiTran Associates, Inc. out of New York City and New Haven, Connecticut as their consultant. The City is in the process of having a developed contract and scope of services which should be approved later this month. The goal is to have a meeting at the beginning of April and proceed with the process for approximately 10 months which will get them through the rest of the calendar year. Range of topics that will be discussed and studied are comprehensive operations analysis; detailed working from StarTran; future alternatives as far as different types of services; other organizational and funding options, and looking at different service standards to be established for StarTran as it moves into the future. The first meeting with the consultant and Advisory Committee will start the beginning of April.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Briefing on the *Lincoln Lancaster Long Range Transportation Plan 2030* Update process and schedule.

Hoskins mentioned that they had two work sessions planned. They will be sitting down with the Planning Commission to discuss basically the issues that they see as far as transportation is concerned for the future and work towards some solutions to some of the issues that are coming up. These are scheduled for March 8 and 9. Beyond that we do have a Technical Committee meeting scheduled for the 16th of March.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Other topics for discussion.

Cary along with Singh, Scott Cockrill, and Kent Morgan met with each of the community centers in Lincoln as part of an outreach effort to inform them about the update of the LRTP. They used this opportunity to gather input and to begin dialogue with community centers to make sure they have a voice in the process and continue to discuss other items with them. The most immediate outreach will be getting in touch with them on the Transit Study. Cary handed out a memo which detailed information about what was discussed and some of the issues that were brought up at the meetings.

Agenda Item No. 6 - Time available for the public to address the MPO Technical Advisory Committee.

No public participants addressed the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45.